

Message Text

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21

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2359

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WARSAW 7073

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, PL

SUBJECT: LOT, PANAM, AND CHICAGO

REF THE HAGUE 5616

1. THE WARSAW DAILY ZYCIE WARSZAWY ON NOVEMBER 26 CARRIED AN ARTICLE BY THE POLISH INTERPRESS NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT ON THE EXPERIENCE OF POLISH AIRLINES LOT ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC ROUTE. THE ARTICLE, WHICH CLEARLY REPRESENTS THE VIEWS OF LOT, STATES THAT LOT SOLD 75 PERCENT OF ITS SEATS ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC FLIGHT IN 1973 AND WILL SELL 76 PERCENT IN 1974, THE BEST RECORD AMONG ALL NORTH ATLANTIC SCHEDULED CARRIERS.

2. THE ARTICLE ATTACKS PAN AMERICAN, STATING THAT THEIR "GLORIOUS PHILOSOPHY OF FREE COMPETITION... IS NOT ALWAYS FOLLOWED IN PRACTICE." AMONG RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES, IT CITES THE LIMITATION ON LOT'S FREQUENCIES AND THE LIMITATION ON LANDING RIGHTS WHICH PREVENTS LOT FROM FLYING TO CHICAGO. IN EXCHANGE FOR CHICAGO, THE ARTICLE SAYS THAT AMERICAN SIDE "DEMANDS THEORETICAL RECIPROCITY: TWO CITIES IN POLAND," AND THEN ARGUES IRONICALLY THAT PANAM "WOULD NOT WANT TO FLY TO RZESZOW."

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3. LOT WOULD WANT TO FLY THREE TIMES A WEEK YEAR-ROUND WITH A FOURTH FREQUENCY IN THE SUMMER AND ONE FLIGHT WEEKLY TO CHICAGO. THE ARTICLE CONCLUDES WITH THE HOPE THAT "MATTERS CAN BE RESOLVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF MUTUAL BENEFIT."

4. THE PANAM REPRESENTATIVE IN WARSAW HAS TOLD US THAT LOT HAS PROPOSED ENTERING A POOLING AGREEMENT WITH PANAM ON WARSAW-NEW YORK FLIGHTS. THE TWO AIRLINES HAVE ALREADY HELD ONE ROUND OF TALKS ON THE SUBJECT AND EXPECT FURTHER DISCUSSIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE PANAM REPRESENTATIVE HAS ALSO CONFIRMED TO US THAT PANAM'S TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR PA 92 AND 93 FOR 1975 INCLUDES CHICAGO.

DAVIES

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